

# WIPO-UPOV SYMPOSIUM ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IN PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY

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## STEPHEN SMITH

Dr. Smith is a Research Fellow and Germplasm Security Coordinator at Pioneer Hi-Bred International. The main applications of his work are to support intellectual property protection and to thereby promote innovation and the use of a broader array of genetic diversity in production agriculture. Dr. Smith earned his Bachelors degree in plant science at the University of London. His Masters degree ( Conservation and Utilisation of Plant Genetic Resources ) and Ph.D. ( Biochemical Systematics of Zea, Tripsacum and Related Genera ) were earned at the University of Birmingham in England. He conducted post-doctorate research at North Carolina State University in Raleigh on isozyme diversity in maize and teosinte

Dr. Smith participates in discussions pertaining to biodiversity, germplasm access issues, the merits of various variety fingerprinting techniques for identification and pedigree analysis and the evolution of intellectual property systems for plant varieties. Significant time is spent in support of litigation to secure Pioneer's intellectual property rights. He co-chairs the Pioneer/DuPont Genetic Resources Issues Team. Dr. Smith is involved in working groups associated with the use of molecular markers to identify varieties within UPOV. He serves on intellectual property committees of the American Seed Trade Association (ASTA), the National Council of Commercial Plant Breeders (NCCPB), the International Seed Federation (ISF), CropLife International and the International Chamber of Commerce. He is a Board member of the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute ( IPGRI ), a member of the international agricultural organization ( CGIAR ). He also provides expert advice to the Global Trust Fund for the Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources.

Dr. Smith is a member of the Crop Science Society of America and of the Economic Botany Society. He has published upwards of 70 scientific papers on fingerprinting techniques, biodiversity, germplasm conservation, and intellectual property protection of plant varieties. He chaired the Genetic Resource Division of the Crop Science Society in 2000. He is a member of the editorial board for the journal " Plant Genetic Resources: Characterisation and Utilisation". He serves on the Boards of the International Plant Genetics Resources Institute and the Des Moines Symphony Orchestra.

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